

## Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0446

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT IT

SUBJ: SOCIALISTS WITHDRAW FROM FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA

REGIONAL GIUNTA

1. THE ANNOUNCEMENT YESTERDAY EVENING BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PSI THAT THE PARTY IS WITHDRAWING ITS SUPPORT FROM THE REGIONAL GIUNTA OF FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA MARKS AN END TO MORE THAN TEN YEARS OF VIRTUALLY UNINTERRUPTED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE DC, PSI AND OTHER CENTER-LEFT COALITION PARTNERS IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT. THE MOVE CLIMAXES A CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED BY THE REGIONAL PSI SHORTLY AFTER THE JUNE 15 ELECTIONS (DESPITE THE FACT THAT NO REGIONAL ELECTION WAS HELD IN FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA) TO ASSOCIATE THE PCI WITH THE GOVERNING MAJORITY IN SOME WAY. THE RESPONSE OF THE DC, LED IN THIS REGION BY A GROUP CLOSE TO PRIME MINISTER MOO AND PARTY SECRETARY ZACCAGNINI, WAS THAT, WHILE THE PARTY WAS PREPARED TO EXPAND CONTACTS WITH THE PCI IN THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND ITS COMMISSIONS, IT FIRMLY REJECTED SOLUTIONS WHICH UNDERMINED THE QTE DIALECTIC OF DEMOCRACY UNQTE BY COMPROMISING THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN MAJORITY AND OPPOSITION.

2. PRIOR TO ANNOUNCING ITS DECISION THE PSI SOUGHT, WITH SOME SUCCESS, TO OBTAIN A DEGREE OF PARTICIPATION BY OTHER PARTIES IN ITS CAMPAIGN. THUS ON OCTOBER 23 THE PSI

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CONVOKED A MEETING OF THE REGIONAL SECRETARIES OF ALL

POLITICAL PARTIES EXCEPT THE DC, WHICH REFUSED TO ATTEND, AND THE MSI, WHICH WAS NOT INVITED. THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING NOTED THAT THE PARTICIPANTS QTE REFUSED ANY POSITION OF DISCRIMINATION IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE POLITICAL FORCES WITHIN THE CONSTITUTIONAL SPECTRUM UNQTE. IN ITS OWN STATEMENT OF YESTERDAY EVENING THE PSI EMPHASIZED THAT ITS DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM THE REGIONAL GIUNTA QTE RE-AFFIRMS THE NATIONAL ORIENTATION OF THE PARTY AND CONFIRMS ITS AVAILABILITY TO REACH AGREEMENTS WITH THE DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR FORCES BASED ON A BROAD PROGRAMMATIC CONSENSUS AND REJECTING PRIOR CONDITIONS BASED ON POLITICAL FORMULAS AND ALIGNMENTS UNQTE.

3. THE PRESENT CRISIS AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL LEAVES THE TRIESTE MUNICIPAL GIUNTA AS THE ONLY REMAINING CENTER-LEFT ADMINISTRATION IN THE AREA. HOWEVER A MUNICIPAL CRISIS IS NOW CONSIDERED A VIRTUAL CERTAINTY WITHIN THE NEAR FUTURE. RACKMALES

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